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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/761,596	01/16/2001	Klaus Schulz	IT-206 US	5810

7590

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EXAMINER

VU, PHUONG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2841

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/761,596

Applicant(s)

SCHULZ ET AL.

Examiner

Phuong T. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 12.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figures 5-6 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 10-11,13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hirata et al. (US 6,368,154 B1). Regarding claim 10, the reference discloses a housing 50 for pluggably receiving a component, the housing comprising a housing part forming an interior for pluggably receiving a component, and at least one pressing spring 62 that is deflected when the component is inserted into said interior of said housing part, said at least one pressing spring having a length and a width that tapers as said length extends into said interior of said housing part.

Regarding claim 11, said pressing spring is designed in a trapezoidal shape.

Regarding claim 13, said pressing spring is designed in a triangular shape.

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4. Claims 10-12,16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hirata et al. (US 6,368,154 B1). Regarding claim 10, the reference discloses a housing 150 for pluggably receiving a component, the housing comprising a housing part forming an interior for pluggably receiving a component, and at least one pressing spring 162 that is deflected when the component is inserted into said interior of said housing part, said at least one pressing spring having a length and a width that slightly tapers as said length extends into said interior of said housing part.

Regarding claim 11, said pressing spring is designed in a trapezoidal shape.

Regarding claim 12, said housing part has side walls 154,156 and said pressing spring has two parallel sides running parallel to said side walls of said housing part.

Regarding claim 16, said housing part includes an upper part (roof) and a lower part (rest of housing) designed for connection to a printed circuit board and said pressing spring is articulated on said lower part.

Regarding claim 17, the housing part includes a right-hand wall and a left hand wall, said at least one pressing spring includes a first pressing spring articulated on said right-hand wall of said housing part and a second pressing spring articulated on said left-hand wall of said housing part.

Regarding claim 18, said right-hand wall includes an upper region and said left-hand wall includes an upper region, said first pressing spring is articulated in said upper region of said right-hand wall and said second pressing spring is articulated in said upper region of said left-hand wall.

Regarding claim 19, said housing part has an upper edge, said first pressing spring has a leg articulated on said right-hand wall and terminating flush with said upper edge of said housing part and said second pressing spring has a leg articulated on said left-hand wall and terminating flush with said upper edge of said housing part.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 10, 14-15, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flickinger et al. (US 6,517,382B2). Regarding claim 10, the reference discloses a housing 20 for pluggably receiving a component, the housing comprising a housing part forming an interior for pluggably receiving a component, and at least one pressing spring 30 that is deflected when the component is inserted into said interior of said housing part. Flickinger does not teach that said at least one pressing spring has a length and a width that tapers as said length extends into said interior of said housing part, however those skilled in the art would recognize that providing angled or tapered contact springs provides more resiliency for better contact between the springs and their intended contacting device.

Regarding claim 14, said housing part has a first end and a second end remote from said first end, said first end defines a location for pluggably receiving the component, said pressing spring is designed as a continuation of said housing part at

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said second end and said pressing spring is bent around by more than 90 degrees into said interior of said housing part.

Regarding claim 15, said continuation is formed integrally with said housing part.

Regarding claim 20, the component is an optoelectronic transceiver.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong T. Vu whose telephone number is (703) 308-0303. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. & Tues., 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Martin can be reached on (703) 308-3121. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-4341.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

PTVu

March 23, 2003

